

REMARKS

Claims 1-10, 12, 13, and 15-20 are cancelled. Applicant appreciates notice of the allowable subject matter in amended claims 11 and 14.

Applicant requests interview

Applicant respectfully requests an interview if it would expedite disposition of the application. The undersigned attorney would welcome and encourage a telephone conference with Examiner at (512) 391-4913.

Specification Amendment

Paragraphs 30 and 35 are amended to correct typographical errors.

Abstract Amendment

Paragraph 55 is amended to correct a typographical error.

Objections to the drawings

Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of objections to the drawings in light of cancelled claim 20.

Reservation of Rights

Applicant has canceled claims 1-10, 12, 13, and 15-20 from further consideration in this application. Applicant is not conceding in this application that those claims are not patentable over the art cited by the Examiner. Applicant respectfully reserves the right to pursue these and other claims in one or more continuations and/or divisional patent applications.

Objections to claims

Applicant respectfully requests the objections to the claims be withdrawn. The claims are objected in reference of MPEP § 608.01(m).

MPEP § 608.01(m) states:

Reference characters corresponding to elements recited in the detailed description and the drawings may be used in conjunction with the recitation of the same element or group of elements in the claims. The reference characters, however, should be enclosed within parentheses so as to avoid confusion with other numbers or characters which may appear in the claims.

The claims do not contain any reference characters corresponding to any elements recited in the detailed description and the drawings.

Claims 6, 7, 11, and 14 stand objected as being dependent upon rejected base claims. Claims 6 and 7 are cancelled. Applicant amended claim 11 to include subject matter in claims 8 and 9. Claim 14 is amended to include subject matter in claim 8. Applicant respectfully requests the objections to claims 11 and 14 be withdrawn.

Claim rejections under 35 USC § 112

Claim 19 stands rejected under 35 USC § 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 19 is cancelled.

Claim rejections under 35 USC § 102

Claims 1-3, 8-10, 12, 13, and 15-17 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102 as being anticipated by Hawkins et al., U.S. Patent Application No. 6,442,637 (hereinafter referred to as "Hawkins"). Claims 1-3, 8-10, 12, 13, and 15-17 are cancelled.

Claim rejections under 35 USC § 103(a)

The Office action rejected claims 4, 5, and 18-20 under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Hawkins et al., U.S. Patent Application No. 6,442,637 (hereinafter referred to as "Hawkins"). Claims 4, 5, and 18-20 are cancelled.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully addresses the objections and cancelled the rejected claims under 35 USC §§ 112, 102, and 103. Accordingly, Applicant believes that this response constitutes a complete response to each of the issues raised in the Office action. In light of the accompanying remarks, Applicant believes that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Thus, Applicant requests that the rejections be withdrawn, pending claims be allowed, and application advance toward issuance.

A request for an extension as well as authorization to charge the corresponding fee accompany this action. No other fee is believed due with this paper. However, if any fee is determined to be required, the Office is authorized to charge Deposit Account 09-0447 for any such required fee.

Respectfully submitted,

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/Jeffrey S Schubert/

Date

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